Appln. No.: 10/082,920

Amendment Dated April 7, 2004

Reply to Office Action of January 8, 2004

Amendments t the Specificati n:

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 4, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Still another object of the invention is to provide an endoluminal stent-graft which is resistant to dilation but which his still self-expanding during installation.

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 6, line 26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 18 is a view similar to Figure 16 showing the fabric stretched in another direction.;

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 8, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Referring now to Figure 20, a A third embodiment of a stent-graft 250 according to the invention includes a Didcott-type stent made up of wire elements, e.g. 252, 254, which are helically wound relative to the longitudinal axis 256 and braided relative to each other. The crossing angle of the wires is preferably between approximately 80° and approximately 100° when the stent is in the expanded state. A conventional graft material 260 may be attached to the interior of the stent in a conventional way. According to the invention, a dilation restrictor sleeve 258 is attached to the stent as shown in Figure 20. The sleeve 258 is made of a specially knit material 258 which is shown diagrammatically in Figure 19 and is attached to the sent in any of the manners described above with respect to sutures and bands. In order to appreciate the nature of the material used to fabricate the sleeve 258, it is useful to consider the nature of warp knit materials in general.

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 9, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The warp knit material used in the present invention is a more complex warp knit with an asymmetrical inlay thread. The material will stretch in one direction but is restricted by the inlay thread from stretching in <u>another</u> the opposite direction. The sleeve of the invention is manufactured with the material such that the stretchable axis is aligned with the longitudinal axis of the sleeve which is substantially collinear with the longitudinal axis of the stent-graft.

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Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the sleeve will allow the stent-graft to be easily "pulled down" for installation via a catheter and guide wire and will allow the stent-graft to expand to its determined diameter which restricts the stent-graft from dilation. In accord with the invention, the material used to make the sleeve may act as a substitute for the graft material. Those skilled in the art, with the benefit of the instant disclosure, will appreciate that the warp knit pattern can be used to knit a fabric which is suitable for use as a graft material.